



# St John's Newsletter

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

## *An update from Mr Rubin...*

As we approach the end of this half term, I wanted to say how proud I am of the children who have fully embraced returning to school, our staff who work so hard and our school community who have worked in partnership with us.

This week both St. Paul's and St. John's were visited by Daniel Burton who works for the Tower Hamlets Education Partnership (THEP) team. He enjoyed his visit and had the opportunity to speak to our team on a wide range of topics including our Covid response, the curriculum, mathematics and safeguarding arrangements.

Over half term, do have a look at our YouTube channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVsLkOc\\_vyS1IONuHmcEFZw/featured](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVsLkOc_vyS1IONuHmcEFZw/featured) . I have added some of the content that our staff work so hard to produce.

Have a lovely break, stay safe and be kind to one another. See you on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.



### Published Authors

Congratulations to Lucy who did so well in the Tower Hamlets Creative Writing Competition. Lucy received a commendation for her entry and if you have a look at our twitter feed below, you can see for yourself how exciting her story is.

<https://twitter.com/5tJohnsTower/status/1316001972340883456>

A big well done to Hannah too (now in Year 7) who received first prize for her entry.

I wanted to also say thank you to Shaju and Ms Wall for their enthusiasm and support with this.

### Children's Flu Vaccine – CORRECTION



In the last edition, I informed you that children are scheduled to have their flu vaccines on the 8<sup>th</sup> December. Please note that **this is administered as a nasal spray** and not as a jab as I originally stated. If you would like some more information on this I have included a hyperlink taken from the NHS website.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/>



We now have 237 followers on Twitter. Thank you to everyone who has signed up. Please follow us @5tJohnsTower – it's a great way to see what is happening in school.

## **Brave Workshops – tackling gang exploitation**

Last week our children in Years 5 and 6 were visited by the team from St Giles Trust to deliver Brave Project workshops. Themes including knife crime and gang culture using age appropriate language and content.

The workshop focused on preventing gang exploitation by both dispelling the myths which glamorise gang life and crime, whilst also exposing the serious exploitative and grooming tactics that take place in order to get young people to join gangs and commit crime.

The children found the workshop very informative and came away with a clearer understanding on how to prevent recruitment and exploitation.



## **Class 4 Update - Ms Wall**

Year 4 have been very busy in science looking at the best material to insulate sound. In addition, they have been learning about the artist James Brunt. Inspired by what they saw, the children went over to the allotment and constructed their own pieces.





## **EYFS Update - Mrs Brownbill**



TAPESTRY  
ONLINE LEARNING JOURNAL

All pupils in the EYFS have an online learning journal which keeps a record of the wonderful work we do at school. This is also a way for parents and carers to share the work that they do with their children at home! It has proved very successful in previous years.

If you have not yet completed your permission slip, and received your log in from Mrs Brownbill please do so at your earliest convenience after the half term.

## **A Place4Parents**



Hello! My name is Christina Kelekun and I am the Place2Be Parent Counsellor at your school. I can offer you a free, non-judgemental and confidential space to explore any worries or concerns you have about any issues in your life. Please speak to Kam for a referral to parent/carers counselling.

You can also ring or text me on 07976 – 281126 (Wednesday – Friday)

## **Half Term Reading – Ms Wall**

*Please ensure your children have lots of opportunities to read over the half-term break! Online books can be found at:*

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>.

**SCHOOL REOPENS FOR CHILDREN ON TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER DUE TO STAFF TRAINING.**



## Bethnal Green After School Club

**Bethnal Green After School Club** is Ofsted-registered, and open to children aged 3 to 11.

There are two branches of the club:

**Globe Primary**, Gawber St, OFSTED: 2549328 and **Bangabandhu Primary**, Wessex Street, OFSTED: 2549327

Both are open **Monday—Friday, 3 pm—6 pm.**

Cost is £11 per child, per afternoon.

Children are picked up from Bangabandhu, Bonner, Globe, Hague, St Johns and John Scurr Primary Schools, and Rachel Keeling nursery.

For enquiries or to register a place, contact  
Globe Club Manager Amanda Carter

[Bethnalgreenafterschoolclub@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Bethnalgreenafterschoolclub@yahoo.co.uk) or [07593618663](tel:07593618663)

or [Bangabandhu Club Manager Muna Hassan BangabASC@gmail.com](mailto:Bangabandhu Club Manager Muna Hassan BangabASC@gmail.com)

or **07763019301**

## Message from Denise and Rashina



East End  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Dear all,

We have been invited to apply for a grant to buy uniform and winter jackets for families. If you fall into one of the categories below and would like us to apply, on your behalf, please let us know via [parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:parents@st-johns.towerhamlets.sch.uk)

**Family circumstances:** *please tick those that apply*

Income related benefits

Pupil premium

Single parent

Working parent/s—low income

Refugee or asylum seeker

Temporary accommodation/homeless

Recently unemployed

No recourse to public funds



### **Local Offer**

There are lots of events going on in the borough over the half term. Please see the Local Offer page for details.

<https://www.localoffertowerhamlets.co.uk/events>

# Money Matters

Are you struggling financially? The links below provides information on where to get help.

- [Tower Hamlets Local Food Digest](#) has produced lots of useful information including Foodbanks, Grants, Community Services and lots more.
- The Government has announced [£37 million to support Children with Complex Needs](#). [The Family Fund](#) provides grants to low-income families raising disabled or seriously ill children and young people, and aims to improve their quality of life by paying for a wide range of items that can ease the daily pressure.
- [Tower Hamlets Council Residents Support Scheme](#) can help with short term support for food/utility bills/white goods and other urgent needs. If applying, please give full details of your family's circumstances and some schools still have parent support workers that can support applications.
- [Tower Hamlets Test and Trace Support Payment](#)- From Monday 28 September 2020 it is a legal requirement to self-isolate if you or someone you have been in close contact with tests positive for Covid-19. The government have now announced [a new financial package to support and enforce self-isolation](#). In some circumstances, if you are required by law to self-isolate from 28 September you may be supported by a payment of £500. This payment will be made to eligible Tower Hamlets residents by the council.
- [Made of Money](#) - 020 8983 5043 or [madeofmoney@qsa.org.uk](mailto:madeofmoney@qsa.org.uk)
- Welfare/Benefits/Council Tax - For information about local organisations offering advice on Universal Credit and other welfare issues, visit [Tower Hamlets Community Advice Network](#) or for support with your Council Tax call 020 7364 5002.
- [Latest Advice, news and information on schools in the borough](#), including back to school, free school's meals and resources for parents.
- The [DFE Guidance](#) for FREE School Meals states that if schools are unable to provide meals or food parcels, they can provide families of pupils eligible for benefits related for free school meals with supermarket vouchers. If you have any difficulty accessing food through your child's school please complete the [COVID-19 self-isolation support request form](#).

## Secondary school admissions deadline

### Starting Secondary school in September 2021

If you live in Tower Hamlets and your child is in Year 6 (born between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010) you will need to make an online application via [eadmissions portal](#) for them to transfer to secondary school in September 2021.

Closing date for making applications is **31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**. For more information please contact:

Mohammed Malik: 020 7364 4307

Kelly Mack: 020 7364 5860

Email: [school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk)